

hospital. I'll never forget looking at Christian's eyes and wondering whether or not he was going to make it. See, both his legs were blown off, and he didn't look good. I knew he'd get the best possible care. I knew that this Government would do everything we could to help him heal. And after talking to him for a minute, I realized he had the courage necessary. He told me one thing—he looked at me, he said: "Mr. President, you don't need to worry about me. Someday I'm going to come to the White House and run with you on the South Lawn." I looked at him and said, "Come on, Christian, I'll be ready when you are," not sure whether or not this good man would really be able to do it; certain he wanted to, but unsure. And if you'd have been in my position, you would have too. After all, he'd just come off the battlefield and lost both his legs.

Sure enough, the phone call came to the White House. Christian came. Guy who had both legs blown off, as a result of the care and compassion and as a result of the courage in his heart, came to run with the

President at the White House. Plus, he outran me.

The spirit of America is strong in facilities like this. Our country is a remarkable country that has produced men and women who volunteer to protect our Nation in the face of danger. And there's no better example of finding those type of citizens than right here, citizens who have shown incredible courage, citizens who love our country, and citizens whose resolve is inspiring.

And so I appreciate you letting me come by. May God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:27 p.m. at the Center for the Intrepid. In his remarks, he referred to Arnold Fisher, honorary chairman, Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund; Kenneth Fisher, chairman and chief executive officer, Fisher House Foundation, Inc.; and former Sen. Robert J. Dole and former Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna E. Shalala, Cochairs, President's Commission on Care for America's Returning Wounded Warriors.

Statement on House of Representatives Approval of a Free Trade Agreement With Peru *November 8, 2007*

I am pleased that the House of Representatives today approved the free trade agreement with Peru with a strong bipartisan vote.

Expanding markets for our goods and services is crucial to continued economic growth and job creation here in America. Through free trade agreements, we establish rules that ensure the opportunities and benefits of trade are available to our workers, ranchers, farmers, and service providers.

For more than 14 years, Peru has benefited from broad access to our markets under the Andean Trade Preference Act.

This U.S.-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement will help level the playing field for American exporters and investors. Approval of this agreement will also send a strong signal that we are willing to support those who share our values of economic freedom and democracy.

By strengthening our trading relationships with important neighbors—including through our trade agreements with Colombia and Panama—we will significantly advance both our economic and national security interests. These democracies are trying to improve the lives of their citizens. We should embrace the strong commitment to

economic freedom of countries in our region and the efforts of Colombia to fight terrorists and drug traffickers and to strengthen the rule of law.

Today's vote in the House is the first on a free trade agreement since my administration and the leaders of both parties in

Congress agreed on a new bipartisan way forward.

I encourage the U.S. Senate to quickly approve this agreement and for Congress then to move promptly to consideration of our free trade agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea.

Statement on Senate Confirmation of Michael B. Mukasey as Attorney General

November 8, 2007

I thank the Senate for its bipartisan vote confirming Judge Michael Mukasey as the Nation's 81st Attorney General. Judge Mukasey is a man of strong character and integrity with exceptional legal judgment. He was an accomplished prosecutor and, for more than 18 years, a distinguished Federal judge. Now he will be an outstanding Attorney General.

Judge Mukasey's confirmation comes at a critical moment for the Justice Department and for our Nation. As Attorney Gen-

eral, Judge Mukasey will lead the Justice Department as it works to protect the American people, whether from drug traffickers and other criminals on our streets or from terrorists who seek to attack our homeland.

Now that Judge Mukasey has been confirmed, I look forward to working with the Senate to fill the other senior leadership positions at the Justice Department so that America has the strongest, most capable national security team during this time of war.

Message to the Congress on Continuation of the National Emergency Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction

November 8, 2007

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)), I transmit herewith notice of a 1-year continuation of the national emergency with respect to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction that was declared in Executive Order 12938 of November 14, 1994, as amended.

The White House,

November 8, 2007.

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 9. The notice is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

GEORGE W. BUSH